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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

HC 85-215
2 July 1985

Colonel John E. Endicott, USAF
Acting Director
Institute for National Strategic Studies
National Defense University
Fort McNair
Washington, D.C. 20329-6000

Dear Colonel Endicott:

In response to your letter of 7 May to the Director, I am forwarding with this note a suggested topic for student research at the Institute for National Strategic Studies during academic year 1985-86, "Domestic Stresses in the Soviet System."

a member of the HUMINT Committee Staff, has originated this suggestion and can be contacted at should further elaboration be desired. The topic is one of great interest, and I hope that it might strike a chord among one of your Russian language qualified officers.

Sincerely,

Attachment:
as stated

NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL STRATEGIC STUDIES

SUGGESTED RESEARCH TOPIC FOR STUDENT RESEARCH
ACADEMIC YEAR 1985-86

(Please use a separate sheet for each topic.)

Topic: Domestic Stresses in the Soviet System

Brief Elaboration: For the balance of this decade and into the 1990s US policymakers and analysts dealing with the USSR will have a particular need for information on an array of serious endemic internal problems constraining Soviet decisionmaking. Although the Soviet leadership commands powerful instruments of repression and control, a combination of festering and chronic internal stresses have made more salient the question of whether the regime can maintain its legitimacy and function effectively over the long run without substantially modifying its policies and priorities.

Time frame during which research on this topic may be useful to policy makers:

Mid- to long-term (5-10 years)

Agency and office requesting research on the topic:

HUMINT Committee, Intelligence Community Staff

Person in the agency to contact for further details between August 1985 and May 1986:

Telephone or AUTOVON number:

Any other details:

Please return to: Acting Director
Institute for National Strategic Studies
National Defense University
Fort McNair
Washington, D.C. 20319-6000

SUBJECT: Letter to Col Endicott, Acting Director, Institute for
National Strategic Studies, National Defense
University, Ft. McNair, on Suggested Topic for Student
Research for 1985-86

STAT DCI/ICS/HC, [REDACTED] (2Jul85)

DISTRIBUTION: HC 85-215

STAT Orig - Col John Endicott, USAF (NDU)

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